



State-Supplied Vaccine Eligibility for Children

The Alaska Immunization Program currently receives both federal and state funds to procure childhood vaccines. These funding sources allow enrolled providers to receive state-supplied vaccine for administration to children ≤ 18 years of age meeting specific eligibility criteria. Accurate eligibility screening and documentation is vitally important to ensure accountability and ongoing availability of each funding source. The state-supplied vaccine eligibility criteria for children are:

1. Vaccines for Children (VFC) Eligibility:

- o Medicaid eligible/enrolled
- o American Indian/Alaska Native
- o Uninsured
- o VFC-underinsured – available only at a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) or deputized provider
 - a child who has health insurance, but coverage does not include vaccines;
 - a child whose insurance covers only selected vaccines (child is eligible to receive only those vaccines that are not covered by insurance plan); or
 - a child whose insurance caps the cost for vaccine coverage (child is eligible after the insurance cap has been reached)

Note: unmet deductibles or copays do not meet the criteria for VFC-underinsured status (see below for state-underinsured eligibility criteria)

2. State-Underinsured Eligibility:

- o Children are considered “state-underinsured” if a parent/guardian responds as follows to the screening question: *Does your insurance cover the vaccines you are receiving today?*
 - “My insurance does not cover immunizations”
 - “I don’t know if my insurance covers immunizations”
 - “I have not met my deductible or co-pay”
- o For a child whose insurance excludes some vaccines, that child is eligible to receive only those state-supplied vaccines that are not covered by their insurance plan

3. Ineligible (Fully Insured) - only eligible to receive state-supplied vaccine if meeting the below criteria:

- o All children birth through 35 months of age are eligible to receive state-supplied vaccine
- o Insured children 3 through 18 years of age living in remote regions of Alaska who have no other access to vaccines except through Public Health Nursing services are eligible to receive state-supplied vaccines at their local public health center or from an itinerant public health nurse

Important Notes for All State-Supplied Vaccines:

- o Parents/guardians of children with health insurance should review their insurance policy prior to receiving state-supplied vaccines
- o Eligible patients cannot be denied state-supplied vaccine due to inability to pay an administration fee
- o Providers administering state-supplied vaccine must report vaccine administration and patient eligibility status into VacTrAK
- o Verification of eligibility status is not required
- o The “Alaska Eligibility Screening Record for State-Supplied Vaccines Form” is available at: www.epi.alaska.gov/id/iz/vaxpacket/forms/PatientEligibilityScreeningRecord.pdf
- o State-supplied pediatric vaccines may be stored with state-supplied adult vaccines
- o Always use vaccines with the earliest expiration date first

Table. State-Supplied Pediatric Vaccine Eligibility, by Status and Facility Type

Facility Type	Medicaid Eligible	American Indian / Alaska Native	Uninsured	VFC- Underinsured	State- Underinsured	“Ineligible” (i.e., Fully Insured)
Public Health Center	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	0 through 35 months 3 through 18 years Remote Access
Tribal Health Center	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0 through 35 months
Private Provider Office	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0 through 35 months
FQHC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	0 through 35 months
Deputized Facilities	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	0 through 35 months

Additional Vaccine Administration Services Provided by Public Health Nurses**• Remote Access Eligibility**

- Insured children living in remote regions of Alaska who have no other access to vaccines except through Public Health Nursing services are eligible to receive state-supplied vaccines at their local public health center or from an itinerant public health nurse
- This provision allows all insured children in remote rural locations where no medical provider offers vaccines or accepts insurance (i.e., insurance does not recognize CHAs as immunization providers, facility charges fee not covered by insurance, military coverage but no military provider access) to have access to vaccines
- Remote access insured recipients must be recorded as “Ineligible” in VacTrAK for their vaccine eligibility status
- Each dose of state-supplied vaccine administered by Public Health Nurse to an insured child 3 through 18 years of age must be documented on the “Insured Patient Vaccine Administration Form” available at: <http://www.epi.alaska.gov/id/iz/ssv/InsuredPatientVaccineAdminForm.pdf> and faxed to the Epidemiology Vaccine Depot staff at (907) 341-2228
- Sliding fee charges for administration of vaccine apply
- No eligible patients may be denied vaccine if they are unable to pay an administration fee

For more information, call the Alaska Immunization Helpline at (907) 269-8088 or (888) 430-4321